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Corporate Readquarters



June 29, 2005

Richard A. Hertling Deputy Assistant Attorney General Office of Legal Policy 4234 Robert F. Kennedy, Bldg. 950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20530

RE: OLP Docket No. 100

Dear Mr. Hertling,

As the recruiting manager for a national private investigative firm I am required to conduct background checks on prospective new hires for a non-criminal justice purpose. We conduct investigations for national insurance companies and our contracts with them do not allow for any employees with felony convictions to handle their files.

Most states have licensing requirements that do not allow us to license anyone with a felony conviction or in some states it is a class A misdemeanor or above or anything involving crimes of moral turpitude.

There needs to be a more easily accessed system of checking these criminal records in the various states the prospective employee has resided so that we can keep our costs down while still complying with the individual state regulations where we intend to license these investigators.

While there will always be the chance of abuse of the system I feel that the benefits to the public will far outweigh any individual violations of the conditions for use of the system.

In some states it is currently possible to access the criminal records online while in others we must incur the cost of sending another investigator to the county courthouses in the counties where the candidate for employment has resided. While this may identify any criminal history he has in that county it is far from perfect since not everyone is charged and convicted in their home county.

In order to screen our employees effectively we spend a large sum of money and in some cases end up finding a record that would make them ineligible. If we are unable to locate the record and hire the individual and then pay all the costs of training them and putting them in position to then learn from the state that there is a record we did not find we are out a large amount of money. We must then run another ad, screen the candidates, interview them, hire one, do another background and then train them.

With a national system in place where we could check for criminal records throughout the country (for legitimate purposes) we would be saved this undue financial burden.

Thank you,

Skip Maples

Recruiting & Training Manager

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